

House (Tract #903)

HABS No. MO-1240

.3 miles east of Route 0, .7 miles southeast of
its intersection with Route 83

Warsaw Vicinity

Benton County

Missouri

HABS,
MO,
8-WARS.V,
5-

PHOTOGRAPHS

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20243

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS No. MO-1240

HOUSE (Tract #903)

Location: 0.3 miles east of Route 0, 0.7 miles southeast of its intersection with Route 83, 1.3 miles south-south-east of Fairfield, Warsaw Vicinity, Benton County, Missouri.

USGS Warsaw West Quadrangle, Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: 15.465150.4220490.

Present Owner: United States Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District.

Present Use: Vacant.

Significance: The only remaining house on the original site of Fairfield, Missouri, this is a good example of a one-and-a-half story log house.

PART I. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

Condition of fabric: Fair. The house has been uninhabited for several years and is beginning to deteriorate. The logs are covered with tar paper resembling bricks. Shingles are missing from the barn roof.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: This one-and-a-half story structure has a one-bay front, 20'-6" wide, by 18'-9" deep, or 37'-11" including front and rear additions.
2. Foundation: Sandstone on grade, approximately 24" high. No basement.
3. Wall construction: Horizontal wood siding covers the log walls, and tan tar paper resembling bricks covers the wood siding.
4. Structural system: The walls are constructed of hand-hewn logs with half-dovetail corner joints. In the gable ends, there are studs and wood sheathing. The flooring is supported by log joists widely spaced, about 30" on center.

5. Porch: There is a porch across the front of the house. The flooring is a concrete slab on stone perimeter foundation. The roof is a shed roof attached to the wall of the house with no vertical supports.
6. Chimney: There is a single interior end brick stove chimney on the north end of the house. The bricks start just above the last log in the attic, and the hole in the floor of the attic appears to have been for the flue to the stove downstairs.
7. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: The front door has a glass panel over four vertical rectangular panels.
 - b. Windows: The windows have four-over-four and one-over-one-light double hung wood sashes.
8. Roof: There is a gable roof with wood shingles. The shed roof over the porch is dropped about 12" down the face of the building under the eave. The shed roof at the rear has a shallower slope than the main portion of the roof.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans: The first floor has two rooms: The roughly square room of the original log portion and the rectangular room added across the rear, probably used as a kitchen. The second floor is only one room, in the original log portion.
2. Stairways: The L-shaped stairway with corner landing in the southwest corner of the front room is enclosed by a partition of 1" x 7"-9" tongue and groove horizontal wood boards. The handrail at the second floor is made up of rectangular wood members secured by pegs. The balusters, 6 1/2" on center, are square, rotated 45° so that the corners face outwards.
3. Flooring: The wood flooring in the front room is 4 1/2"-6" wide. There is a concrete slab floor in the front porch and the rear kitchen.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: The front room has wallpaper over plaster on wood lath. Some lath in this room is a board about 7 1/2" wide with linear gaps, as if the soft part of each wood ring had disappeared, leaving a sort of continuous wooden web. The majority of wood lath is 1" x 2" wood stripping. At the second floor, the log walls are exposed. The rear kitchen has tongue and groove horizontal wood wainscoting with wallpaper above. The ceiling

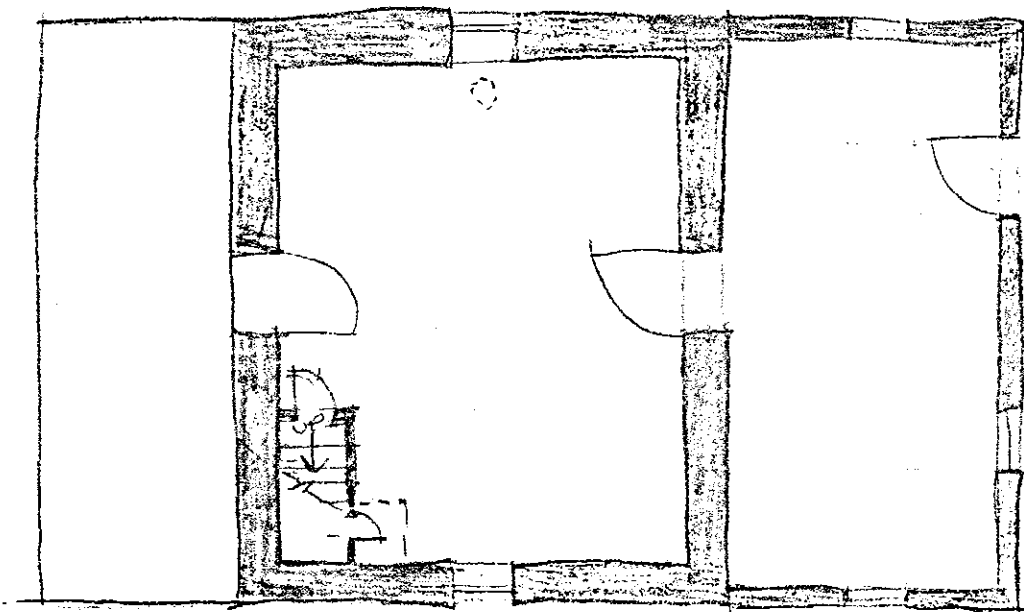
in the downstairs front room is exposed beams supporting the floor above. The ceiling of the second floor is exposed rafters and roofing.

5. Openings: The door to the stair enclosure is made up of vertical boards nailed to two horizontal boards with beveled edges.

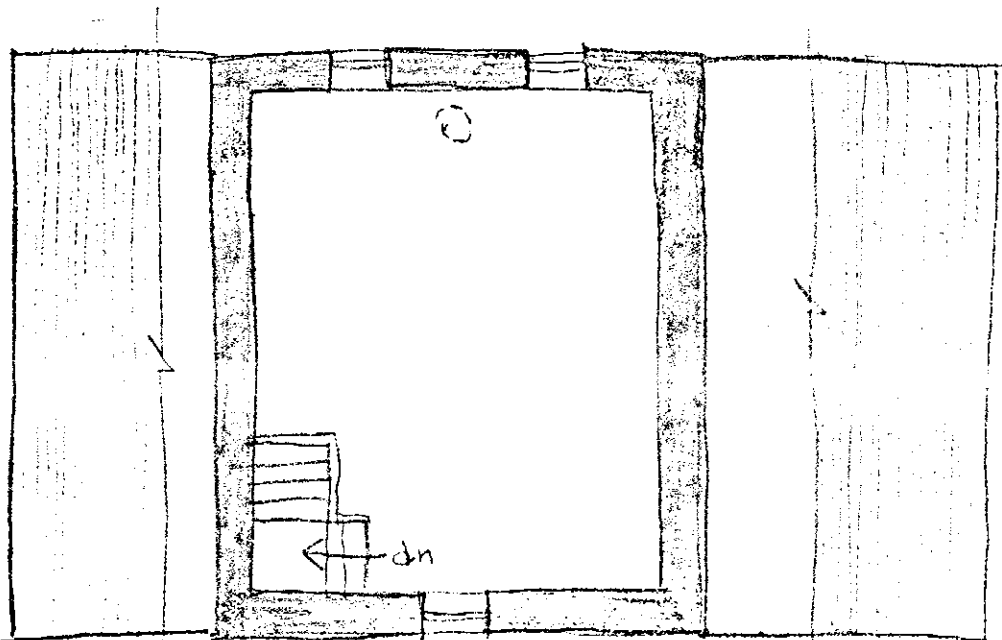
D. Site:

1. General setting: The house faces west and sits east of a dirt road. A small family cemetery is hidden by trees west of the road.
2. Outbuildings: Northeast of the house is a three-aisle barn with a cattle-chute to one side of the wide central aisle. Notches in the vertical members supporting the roof look as if these members were originally used in another structure, perhaps as a perimeter beam to receive joists or other horizontal members. Vertical siding may have been board and batten originally, but battens are now gone. The building is 37'-6" wide by 40' deep, and has wood shingles on its gable roof.

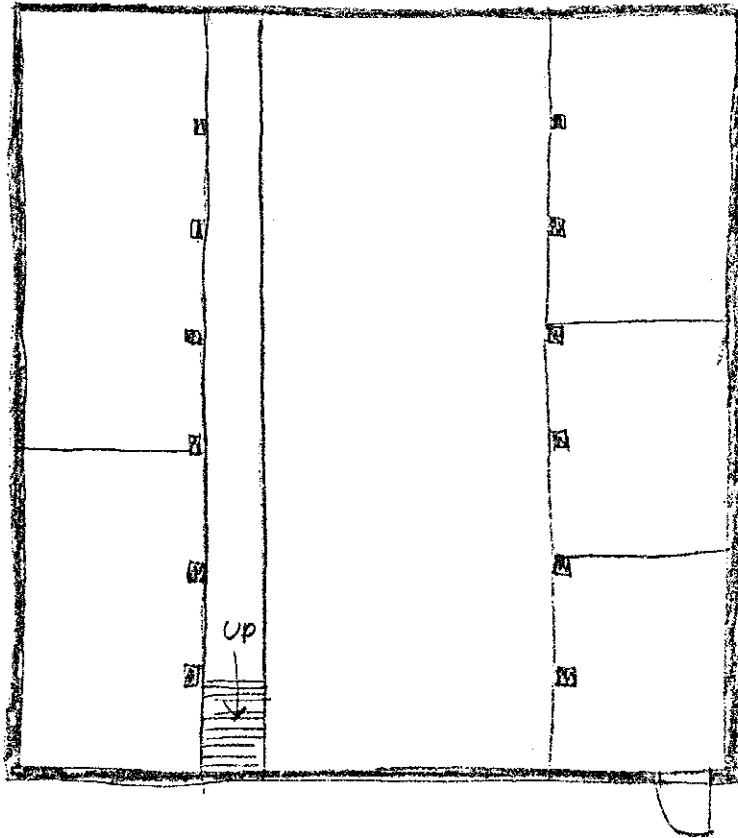
Prepared by William Brookover
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Historic American
Buildings Survey
Summer 1977



FIRST FLOOR PLAN # 903



SECOND FLOOR PLAN # 903



→ N BARN PLAN #903

PART II. PROJECT INFORMATION

The Truman Reservoir Project was funded by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District, in compliance with Executive Order 11593 as a mitigative effort in the construction of the Harry S Truman Dam and Reservoir, in the summer of 1977. William Brookover (Columbia University), supervisor; Michael Connor (University of Virginia), team foreman; Gary Baker (Catholic University), Edwin Daniel (Mississippi State), and Gary Statkus (University of Illinois), student architects; Paul Weed (Columbia University), architectural historian.